



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, June 29, 2006

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES NEW TITLE II PROJECT DIRECTOR
Experienced Education Administrator Selected for Position

PHOENIX – Governor Janet Napolitano today announced that Bonnie Talakte will take the position of Project Director for the Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan (AzTEP). Talakte is formerly the Project Administrator for AzTEP, and is experienced in Community Outreach for Education Programs.

Prior to coming to the Governor's Office in 2005, Talakte held several positions in educational institutions, including as Dean of Enrollment & Student Services at Central Arizona College in Coolidge and Director of American Indian Programs at Scottsdale Community College.

The Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan is made possible by a \$12 million four-year grant awarded to the Governor's Office in 2003. The money is used to recruit and retain high quality teachers at schools in communities that have difficulty retaining staff, such as those in remote areas, or high rates of poverty, with a focus on Native American communities.